

Committee on Equal Opportunities
Council on Postsecondary Education
February 16, 2010

Kentucky Plan for Equal Opportunities
2010 Degree Program Eligibility

This assessment is an annual report card that describes institutional success in implementing strategies to achieve the objectives of the *1997-2002 Kentucky Plan for Equal Opportunities*.

Based on the most recent assessment of enrollment, retention, and employment under the *Kentucky Plan* objectives, fewer public postsecondary institutions qualified for the most favorable category of eligibility for new programs in 2010 (20) compared to 2009 (21). Seven universities and 13 community and technical colleges qualify for automatic status in 2010, compared to six universities and 15 community and technical colleges in 2009.

Seven universities are automatically eligible to propose new degree programs. The University of Kentucky, the University of Louisville, and Western Kentucky University showed continuing progress on all objectives. Eastern Kentucky University, Murray State University, and Northern Kentucky University showed continuing progress on seven of eight *Kentucky Plan* objectives. Kentucky State University showed progress on five of seven *Kentucky Plan* objectives. Morehead State University is ineligible to implement new programs in 2010; MoSU was granted a waiver in 2009 and is ineligible for a waiver in two consecutive years. Among the universities, the performance of three institutions remained the same while five institutions increased, compared to their 2009 performance.

The administrative regulation 13 KAR 2:060 provides that an institution that is not automatically eligible to offer new programs may seek a quantitative or qualitative waiver through the CEO to offer new academic programs. The quantitative waiver equals continuous progress in two of four objectives. The qualitative waiver equals continuous progress in zero or one of four objectives. In the Kentucky Community and Technical College System, 13 colleges are automatically eligible to propose new degree programs compared to 15 in 2009. Two institutions qualified for the quantitative waiver, while one institution is eligible for the qualitative waiver.

Ten community and technical colleges (Bluegrass Community and Technical College, Bowling Green Technical College, Elizabethtown Community and Technical College, Gateway Community and Technical College, Henderson Community College, Hopkinsville Community College, Jefferson Community and Technical College, Owensboro Community and Technical College, Somerset Community College, and West Kentucky Community and Technical College) showed progress on all *Kentucky Plan* objectives.

Ashland Community and Technical College, Madisonville Community College, and Southeast Kentucky Community and Technical College made progress on three *Kentucky Plan* objectives, Big Sandy Community and Technical College and Maysville Community and Technical College showed continuous progress on two objectives, and Hazard Community and Technical College showed

progress on one objective. Among the 16 colleges, one improved its performance, 12 performed at the same level, and the performance of three declined (showing progress on fewer objectives in 2010 compared to 2009).

System Summary

Enrollment of Kentucky resident African American students in fall 2008 increased 0.7 percent over fall 2007 while retention of Kentucky resident African American first-time freshmen increased 1.65 percent in 2009 over 2008. All undergraduate Kentucky resident African American students retained increased by 3.57 percent over 2008. The six-year graduation rate for Kentucky resident African American students held steady at 34.7 percent.

Among the universities, the most problematic objectives were retention of all resident undergraduate students and the six-year graduation rate for degree-seeking Kentucky residents, with three institutions failing to make progress in the two areas. One university experienced challenges on four objectives – retention of first-year resident students, retention of all resident undergraduate students, six-year graduation rate for degree-seeking Kentucky residents, and employment of executives. Among the community and technical colleges, the most problematic objectives were employment of executives (three institutions fell short on progress) and employment of faculty (three institutions fell short on progress).

African Americans make up 5.8 percent of total black and white faculty (432 of 7,503) in the public postsecondary system, including 5.7 percent (315 of 5,541) at traditionally white four-year institutions, 4.2 percent (78 of 1,843) at the community and technical colleges, and 32.8 percent (39 of 119) at Kentucky State University. Proportionately, African American faculty have the greatest representation at Kentucky State University, while numerically the University of Louisville employs the most. Over time, UofL has shown the greatest degree of consistency and progress in this area when compared to the performance of other Kentucky institutions.

African Americans make up 8.8 percent of black and white executive, administrative, and managerial staff (123 of 1,393) in the postsecondary system including 6.2 percent (71 of 1,149) at traditionally white four-year institutions, 10 percent (20 of 201) at the community and technical colleges, and 74.4 percent (32 of 43) at Kentucky State University.

African Americans make up 7.9 percent of black and white professional staff (665 of 8,365) in the postsecondary system including 6.5 percent (481 of 7,358) at traditionally white four-year institutions, 11.5 percent (101 of 878) at community and technical colleges, and 64.3 percent (83 of 129) at Kentucky State University.

Following review of the evaluation results by the Committee on Equal Opportunities, the reports will be forwarded to the institutional presidents.